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October 18, 2010

Jack Blair Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. 311 East Wilcox Drive Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635

RE: SULPHUR SPRINGS VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE REPORTED OUTAGES FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 2010

Dear Mr. Blair:

The Consumer Services Section of the Utilities Division forwards to the Commissioners Outage Reports that utilities submit. The Outage Reports that I have received for the months of August and September, 2010, seem to indicate that during this timeframe Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative ("SSVEC") has reported significantly more outages than other electric utilities in Southern Arizona and the other Cooperatives in general. For example, SSVEC reported 29 outages while TRICO reported 10, Mohave Electric Cooperative reported 7 and UNS Electric reported 9 in Santa Cruz County.

Based on the above I would like SSVEC to provide me with the following information:

- 1. A detailed description/explanation of each of the 29 outages reported during August and September, 2010. Be sure to indicate if the outage originated in SSVEC facilities or if it originated outside the SSVEC local distribution network with another provider. Also indicate if SSVEC believes any of the 29 outages counted were follow-up or duplicate reports for the same cause.
- 2. The actions SSVEC is taking to minimize/avoid future outages of this type.
- 3. The reasons SSVEC believes that it has so many more outages than the other electric utilities listed above.
- 4. Of the 29 outages reported in August and September, how many were in the area to be served by the new 69 kV line in the Sonoita area?
- 5. How does SSVEC outage hours per consumer for 2009 and 2010 year-to-date compare with the Rural Utilities Service guidelines of 5 outage hours per consumer per year?

Please provide your response to this letter no later than November 5, 2010. Depending on SSVEC's responses, this matter may be placed on a forthcoming Commission Open Meeting for further consideration. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Sandra D. Kennedy

Commissioner

cc: Kristin K. Mayes, Chairman

Gary Pierce, Commissioner Paul Newman, Commissioner Bob Stump, Commissioner

Ernest G. Johnson, Executive Director

Janice Alward, Chief Counsel

Steve Olea, Director, Utilities Division